

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets make changes to Figs. 15, 19, 26 and 28 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 15, 19, 26 and 28.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 14-27 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the title and drawings are amended. No new matter is added by the above amendments.

I. All Informalities Have Been Corrected

The Office Action identified a typographical error in Fig. 15. By this Amendment, that typographical informality and additional typographical informalities in the drawings have been corrected. In particular: (i) the spelling of "deleting" and "protected" in step S521 of Fig. 15 is corrected; (ii) the spelling of "termination" in step S22 of Fig. 19 is corrected; (iii) the spelling of "selection" in step S61 and "search" in step S69 of Fig. 26 is corrected; and (iv) the spelling of "enabling" in step S81, "changed" in step S86, "lapse of time" in step S88 and "change" in step S94 of Fig. 28 is corrected. Withdrawal of the drawing objection is requested.

Applicants submit that the amendment to the title overcomes the objection to the title.

II. All Pending Claims are Patentable

Claims 14-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,001 to Berstis in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,237,106 to Koyama et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Berstis and Koyama et al., even when combined, do not disclose or suggest the combinations of features recited in independent claims 14, 21 and 27. Independent claims 14 and 21 recite that a digital camera has a manually operable power switch that switches the digital camera between an operative state and an inoperative state, and these claims further recite that the digital image storage system includes "a controller that controls the transmission of the digital images from the digital camera memory to the storage medium without a manual operation of the power switch to switch the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state." Independent claim 27 recites a digital camera having

a manually operable power switch that switches the digital camera between an operative state and an inoperative state, the digital camera further having "a controller that receives a signal through the first connector [of the camera] for switching the digital camera from the inoperative state to the operative state without a manual operation of the power switch." In rejecting these features of Applicants' claims, the Office Action relies upon Koyama et al. In particular, the Office Action relies on the feature of Koyama et al. involving the switching between a sleep mode and an active mode. However, even if Berstis is modified with the teachings of Koyama et al. relating to the active mode and sleep mode, the combinations of features recited in Applicants' claims 14, 21 and 27 would not result.

Koyama et al. teaches providing an interface of a device (for example, a digital camera) with an active mode and a sleep mode. The device interface is switched between the active and sleep modes in order to reduce power consumption. See, for example, col. 7, lines 32-52 and col. 17, lines 54-56. The Koyama et al. sleep mode is not something that is selected by operation of a manually operable power switch. Rather, the interface of the Koyama et al. device is placed into the sleep mode by the control unit 213. See, for example, col. 7, lines 50-51. The Koyama et al. control unit 213 switches between the interface active and sleep modes based upon the passage of a predetermined time period. See, for example, col. 8, lines 4-13.

Accordingly, Koyama et al. does not disclose or suggest the combinations of features recited in independent claims 14, 21 and 27, in which a digital camera is switched from an inoperative state that is selected by a manually operable power switch, to an operative state without a manual operation of the power switch. Thus, Koyama et al. does not disclose or suggest modifying the Berstis system in order to have the controllers recited in Applicants' independent claims 14, 21 and 27. Withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe anything further would be desirable to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:ccs

Attachments:

Replacement Sheets (4)
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: November 3, 2006

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